

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL MTN GENEVA

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FOL REPEAT HONG KONG 14208 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 8 DEC.

QUOTE

UNCLAS HONG KONG 14208

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OTRA, HK
SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF CALIFORNIA LT. GOVERNOR DYMALLY

REF: (A) HK 12885; (B) SYDNEY 3079

1. DYMALLY DURING HIS ONE DAY VISIT WAS GUEST OF HONOR AT RECEPTION HELD BY HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND AT DINNER HOSTED BY ITS CHAIRMAN. OTHERWISE, DAY'S ACTIVITIES WERE LIMITED AT HIS REQUEST BECAUSE OF HEAVY ACTIVITIES IN 5 COUNTRIES PRIOR TO HIS VISIT HERE. NO SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS DURING WORKING DAY.

2. TDC HIGHLY VALUES TWO-WAY CALIFORNIA/HONG KONG TRADE AND WENT OUT OF ITS WAY TO SHOW DYMALLY ITS PLEASURE IN HIS VISIT. TDC CHAIRMAN USED OCCASION TO PUBLICLY ANNOUNCE HKG INTENTION TO AMEND TARIFF CODE TO PERMIT CALIFORNIA BRANDY ENTRANCE TO LOCAL MARKET.

3. FYI. HKG TOLD CONGEN OFFICER PRIVATELY THAT A BILL TO REPEAL H.K. REGULATION PROHIBITING IMPORT OF BRANDY BELOW CERTAIN PROOF LEVEL WILL BE SUBMITTED TO
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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WEEK OF DECEMBER 6. THIS WILL

ALLOW CALIFORNIA BRANDY TO BE SOLD IN HONG KONG. END FYI.

4. DESPITE SHORTNESS OF VISIT, CONGEN BELIEVES
DYMALLY TRIP HIGHLY USEFUL. US MARKET LOOMS
LARGE IN LOCAL THINKING AND CALIFORNIA IS PERHAPS LARGEST
SEGMENT THEREOF. THUS INDICATIONS OF HIGH-LEVEL INTEREST IN
HONG KONG ON THE PART OF STATES LIKE CALIFORNIA HELPS US TO
PERSUADE HK AUTHORITIES THAT THEY SHOULD BE MORE RESPONSIVE
TO OUR EXPORT PROMOTION EFFORTS.
CROSS

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